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INFORMATION

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ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

H. G. Reissner (New York)

"A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS"

The New Immigration Policy of the U.S.A.

With the Immigration Act of 1924, a quota system was introduced which was to restrict the number of annual immigrants and to preserve the then existing ethnic composition of the population of the United States of America. Quotas favoured immigration from Northern and Western Europe (approximately 80% of the annual total), drastically curtailed immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe, and all but proscribed the immigration of people of Asiatic or African birth or background. On the other hand, there were no numerical restrictions for immigrants born in independent countries of the Western Hemisphere.

After the Second World War amendments under the Truman administration, special legislative exceptions under the Eisenhower administration (e.g., the Refugee Relief Act, 1953, the Refugee-Escapee Act, 1957, the so-called Fair Share Refugee Law, 1960, etc.), and two Acts (1961 and 1962) under the Kennedy administration diluted the national-origins plan in that they authorised non-quota immigration of people not eligible under quota restrictions. Besides, there were minor groups of quota-exempt beneficiaries such as ministers of religious denominations, persons legalised under the refugee-parole provisions of the 1952 Act, and others under 4,273 private bills on behalf of individual immigrants (the latter including a fair share of Jewish refugees from Arab countries).

Thus, the national-origins quota system was effectively nullified. Three out of five in the 1950s and 1960s were non-quota entrants. Nearly one out of two immigrants of the past 15 years came from the Western Hemisphere. Almost one out of five since 1945 had been a refugee. While the pre-First World War record total (8.8 million during the decade 1901-1910) was never reached again, the figures rose from 528,000 during the decade 1931-1940 to nearly four million during the 15 years 1951-1965 (comprising nearly 2.4 million non-quota and nearly 1.6 million quota immigrants).

Buried in the above figures is a particular tragedy: close to 26,000 visas per year had been theoretically available to applicants under the German quota. But not more than altogether 26,000 Jews whose last country of residence had been Germany were admitted during the six years ended June 30, 1938 (including some 5,000 admitted from Austria under the German-Austrian quota merged after the annexation of Austria in the spring of 1938). Approximate full use of availabilities was, however, made during the ensuing two years, but the outbreak of the Second World War interrupted the flow once more. In retrospect, it appears that officials in charge of the administration tended to interpret the

law narrowly, with an eye on possible economic depression, unemployment and infiltration of politically undesirables. On the other hand, Jewish individuals and organisations in Germany tended to cling to their positions throughout the first five years of the Nazi régime. If emigration was considered at all, preference was given either to Palestine or neighbouring European states or to economically underdeveloped countries overseas. It appears to this writer that American Jews and their representative organisations would have been willing to do much more in 1933, under the immediate impact of the political upheaval, but relaxed in the absence of compelling pressure on the part of the Jews in Germany. When pressure mounted in 1938, precious time had been irretrievably lost. Last-minute efforts, such as the Evian Conference, were doomed to failure because time had run out.

In 1952, all immigration and naturalisation laws were, for the first time, codified in a law which became known under the names of its sponsors as the McCarran-Walter Act. Technically, the Act was useful, yet in spirit it was chauvinistic and xenophobic. It refined but retained the national-origins quota system and increased the qualitative restrictions. The Act was passed over President Truman's veto, yet it bespeaks the flexibility of the minds of the post-war Presidents and the American public, as expressed through majorities of its elected Representatives and Senators, that the restrictive features of the Act were overcome by legislative exceptions.

The late John F. Kennedy deserves special commendation for having stated the case of the immigrants in an essay entitled "A Nation of Immigrants" and in his message to Congress of July, 1963. It fell to his successor, Lyndon B. Johnson, to sign a fundamentally new law on October 3, 1965. In Johnson's words, spoken at the foot of the Statue of Liberty—symbolic beacon of hope for immigrants of the past—the new law "says simply that from this day forth those wishing to emigrate to America shall be admitted on the basis of their skills and their close relationship to those already here" (in other words: with disregard to national origins).

President Johnson's summary may have been an over-simplification. The Immigration Act of 1965 does not replace the entire McCarran-Walter Act, nor does it envisage future immigration without numerical ceilings. As of July 1, 1968, a limitation of 170,000 immigrant visas (exclusive of parents, spouses and children of U.S.A. citizens) per year is established for immigrants born in the Eastern Hemisphere, subject to a maximum of 20,000 from any one country, on a first-come,

first-served basis. Furthermore, an annual overall ceiling of 120,000 visas (with the same exclusion as above) is established for immigrants born in independent Western Hemisphere countries. For the transitory period between December 1, 1965 and June 30, 1968, no numerical restrictions will apply to immigrants from the Western Hemisphere. For immigrants from the Eastern Hemisphere, the present annual quota (158,561 in 1965) may be used up in full without restrictions as to any one country and without loss of unused visa numbers previously set aside.

The promulgation of the Immigration Act of 1965 was due not only to spirited Presidential leadership, but also to the efficient work of over 90 voluntary agencies, united since 1960 in the American Immigration and Citizenship Conference and co-operating with government agencies. This "Conference", *inter alia*, comprises non-sectarian social service agencies as well as ethnic or church groups (including HIAS, the National Council of Jewish Women and the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe). Able and loyal support also came from parliamentarians of all faiths and party affiliations (including Jewish members such as Republican Senator Jacob K. Javits from New York and Democratic Representative Emanuel Celler, long-time Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee). Support by Jewish organisations and individuals is all the more remarkable as numerically large or pressing direct Jewish needs do not exist at present.

Not enough time has passed to permit a definite evaluation of the new Act. Besides, circumstances may change with future economic fluctuations in the United States and/or political or economic changes abroad. For instance, whereas total emigration from West Germany increased in 1966, the share of the United States in it has dipped sharply; both American and West German observers believe that this was, in part, due to the unwillingness of many young Germans to face the American military draft and possible service in Vietnam. On the other hand, countries with big backlogs of applicants profited right away. Thus, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1966 (which included just seven months under the new law), the number of immigration visas issued rose against the previous year in the instances of Italy from 9,987 to 24,967, Greece from 1,926 to 8,917, Portugal from 1,698 to 8,719, Nationalist China from 242 to 6,825. Strangely enough, only 696 Irish immigrants arrived in those same seven months, as against 2,300 in the comparable period of the preceding year. This decrease seems to be due to the stress on professional skills required of would-be immigrants.

This is the negative effect of a phenomenon, the positive aspect of which is described as the "brain drain". The phenomenon as such is, however, not entirely new. It had already emerged during the inter-war years, when

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"A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS"

people fled from National Socialist and Fascist oppression. Whereas in the decade 1921-1930, the percentage of professionals among all immigrants was 4.44 per cent, it rose to 16.15 per cent among the German and Austrian immigrants of the years 1933-1941. The trend has been resumed since 1945 and has now broadened due to the shortage of professional manpower and to the higher income level in the United States. The number of immigrant physicians, surgeons, engineers and natural scientists amounted to more than 7,700 each in the fiscal years ended June 30, 1963 and 1964. About 5 to 10 per cent of those currently engaged in one of these professions are apparently of foreign birth and training (although the majority are now American citizens). In terms of educational level, the standing of the immigrant appears to be substantially higher than that of the native American: 59 per cent of foreign-born scientists holding doctorates compare with 37 per cent native scientists. Of altogether 43 holders of Nobel prizes in physics and chemistry 16 are of foreign origin, and 8 of the 28 American Nobel laureates in medicine and physiology are also foreign born.

A foreign analyst of U.S.A. immigration legislation (Brinley Thomas, Economics Professor at the University of Wales, writing in the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, September, 1966) had this to say: "To substitute justification by skill for justification by skin is admirable, but, just like patriotism, it is not enough". Under the new law, 20 per cent or 34,000 out of the annual limit of 170,000 admissible from the Eastern Hemisphere will be assigned to persons with skills and qualifications needed in the United States. Consequently, applicants in many labour categories must prove henceforth that they have job offers in the United States; moreover they need a certification from the U.S.A. Department of Labor that they will not replace an American worker or lower his pay. Initially, the Department issued a prohibited entry list of unskilled occupational titles containing 49 job descriptions. Generally speaking, it may be concluded that the higher and the more select the skill, the better the chance of admission. However, suspicion has already been voiced that many particular ceilings may be over-restrictive while, on the other hand, existing qualified openings may constitute a dangerous drain on the restricted man-power resources of developing countries. Local pressure has, indeed, prompted the Labor Department to remove 16 of the original 49 unskilled job titles from the prohibited list. Further relaxation of clearance rules is under consideration so as to allow, for instance, hospital workers, artisans and other immigrants with skills in short supply to enter without proof of specific job offers. At a conference on immigration held in Boston in December, 1966, Senator Kennedy

referred to such instances deserving relief, e.g., nurses from England, chefs from Holland, marble-cutters from Italy, fishermen from Portugal, and the like. At a higher level, it is estimated that only about 50 per cent of Near, Middle and Far Eastern students in America eventually return to their respective native countries. In this connection, Thomas raises the question: "If imported physical capital has to be paid for, why should public-financed human capital from abroad be received free"? What he hints at is an apparent conflict between the objective of giving aid to developing countries and the free market process of skimming off skills from the same countries.

To summarise, it is indeed conceivable—though certainly not desirable—that a depression may reoccur such as that of the 1930s when re-emigration from the United States exceeded current immigration. Conversely, it would be desirable—though, unfortunately, this may be over-optimistic—that conditions abroad improve to such an extent that fewer people consider emigration. In either contingency, it will behove the American nation to reapply its previously proven flexibility, i.e., to recognise an error of judgment when it becomes patent and to readjust policy according to changing or changed circumstances.

GERMAN RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM

The Federal Government's policy vis-à-vis the N.P.D. is reflected in an article by the Minister of the Interior, Herr Luecke, published in the Ministry's official newsletter, "Innere Sicherheit". Whether the Government would apply for a ban by the Supreme Court, Herr Luecke writes, would depend on the party's further development. "It must also be borne in mind that right-wing extremist ideas are by no means confined to the N.P.D.; were the party eliminated, these ideas could almost at once be canvassed by a new group." Consequently, Herr Luecke holds, "right-wing extremism can be successfully combated not by destroying an organisation but by overcoming the prejudices and ignorance in which it has its roots." Whilst most German papers reported the article without comment, the leading South-West German daily, *Stuttgarter Zeitung*, is critical: "Those who fail to recognise the N.P.D. as Enemy No. 1 do not appreciate the realities of our domestic situation. While Communism at present constitutes no threat to our internal stability, the N.P.D. is about to become a political factor."

A few weeks after the publication of Herr Luecke's article, the Federal Minister of Justice, Gustav Heinemann, told newsmen that he was now giving consideration to the possibility of applying for a ban of the Party by the Supreme Court. However, the position would have to be investigated most carefully. The Minister added that there was a desire to show foreign countries that West Germany was not hesitant in taking action against increasing radicalism within the Federal Republic.

Herr Willy Weyer, the North Rhine-Westphalia Minister of Internal Affairs, said in Duesseldorf that the N.P.D. had about 4,000 members in the State and had become the strongest competitor to the Free Democratic Party, which had a membership of 17,000. Warning against any "hysterical exaggeration" of the N.P.D., Herr Weyer nevertheless stated that it would have to be more closely watched in the future.

The N.P.D. now has 30,000 members, of whom 35 per cent are aged 20-45. This was announced by the 32-year-old N.P.D. member of the Bavarian Land Parliament, Wolfgang Ross. Ross said that employees formed the largest group of the N.P.D. membership, amounting to 29 per cent. Officials and civil servants followed with 12 per cent.

Herr Hans Juergensen, police chief of the Ruhr town of Duisburg, writing in the trade union journal, *Welt der Arbeit*, has accused the authorities of displaying "criminal negligence" in failing to apply existing laws to the control of Right-wing extremism. If existing regulations had been applied as severely to the Right as they had been to the Left, he stated, the N.P.D. would never have achieved its present significance and the *Deutsche National-Zeitung* would be out of business.

The West German policemen's union has written to the Federal Chancellor, Dr. Kurt Georg Kiesinger, stating that it believes sufficient evidence is now available on which to secure a ban on the N.P.D. Herr Werner Kuhlmann, the union chairman, in the letter warned that official declarations promising that Right-wing extremism would be defeated by better information and political education were apt to minimise the problem. He called on the Chancellor to consider whether membership in the N.P.D. by civil servants and members of the armed forces was compatible with their duty to the public. He recalled that in 1950 the Government had declared that membership in the Right-wing Socialist Reich Party or in the Communist Party was incompatible with the obligations of a civil servant, and that this declaration had been issued at a time when neither party had been outlawed.

A document on Right-wing extremism in West Germany has also been prepared by the trade union federation and circulated to every member of the Bundestag. In the preface the federation argued that the banning of the N.P.D. was vital for the maintenance and security of West German democracy. It quoted a speech by Goebbels, of 1934, in which the Nazi Minister of Propaganda said: "If the democratic Government which was in power when we were in opposition permitted us to use democratic methods, this was only the logical consequence of their democratic system. Yet we National Socialists have never claimed to be protagonists of a democratic conception. On the contrary, we made it quite clear that for us democratic methods were only a device for coming into power and that once we would have obtained this power we would ruthlessly deny our adversaries the use of methods which were granted to us as long as we were in opposition."

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HOME NEWS

GOLF CLUB DISPUTE

Rickmansworth Urban Council will not insert an anti-discrimination clause into the new 42-year lease being negotiated with the Moor Park Golf Club. A similar decision was taken in June, 1965, when the Board of Deputies and the British Anti-Discrimination Society asked for such a clause. The six Labour members on the Council suggested that an independent inquiry should be made into allegations that the club discriminated against Jews. The twelve Conservatives present voted against this.

Mr. Ben Whitaker, M.P., in the House of Commons asked the Secretary of State for Education and Science if he would take steps to insist that none of the golf clubs receiving Government grants discriminates on religious or racial grounds in admission of members. The Minister of Sport, Mr. Denis Howell, stated that this was already the policy of his department.—(J.C.)

COLIN JORDAN CONVICTION

Colin Jordan, leader of the National Socialist movement, who was convicted at Devon Assizes of offences against the Race Relations Act and sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment, has lodged an appeal to the Court of Appeal.

KOSYGIN'S VISIT

In the House of Commons Mr. Harold Wilson told the Liberal leader, Mr. Jeremy Thorpe, that during Mr. Kosygin's visit to England the question of Soviet Jewry "was not part of our discussions". In reply to Sir Ian Orr-Ewin, Mr. Wilson said: "This is a matter which has been taken up many times. . . . We do feel very strongly about this". Mr. Wilson stated that "the Soviet Government do not admit some of the statements which we have made on this issue and regard it as an internal matter".

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PASSION PLAY

Commenting on the German passion play which opened at Manchester, the *Jewish Chronicle* correspondent states that he found the production somewhat amateurish. While it is not in the spirit of *Post Vatican II* and must undo some of the good work, particularly among the young, which has been built up in recent years, he entertains no fears that such a passion play performance will undermine Jewish-Christian relationships in this country.

One of the Austrian actors taking a major role in the play is a Jew, Frank Kristian, who plays Pontius Pilate. The artistic director is Peter Barr, a German-born Jew.

In Dublin a committee was formed to carry out a protest campaign against plans to stage the play there. The action was taken at a meeting attended by 30 lay Christians and one clergyman. The organiser, Mr. Frank Golden, said that the play would give the impression that the Jews, *per se*, continued to bear responsibility for the death of Jesus.—(J.C.)

SIR KEITH'S APPOINTMENT

Sir Keith Joseph, M.P., until now Shadow Minister of Labour, has been appointed principal Tory spokesman on trade and steel. He was former Conservative Minister of Housing and Local Government.

PLYMOUTH J.P.

For the first time in the 200 years' history of Plymouth's community a Jewish Justice of the Peace has been appointed. He is Mr. Henry Roy Caplan, aged 51 and a member of an old-established Plymouth family.

JEWISH CHILD ART EXHIBITION

The 14th Jewish Child Art Exhibition will take place at the Ben Uri Art Gallery (21 Dean Street, W.1) from Monday, April 3, and will last a week.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT AWARD

Mr. Ronald Weitzman, of Golders Green, is the first recipient of the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Award, to be presented annually to young people "showing great promise for the future in the fields of art and literature". He has gone to America for a course of lectures at the Roosevelt School in Stamford, Connecticut.

AUSCHWITZ TRIAL ON TV

"The Investigation," by Peter Weiss, the play adapted from the proceedings of the Auschwitz trial between 1963 and 1965 of 20 Germans, has been screened by Granada. Every word of dialogue was actually spoken at the trial. Eighteen of the defendants and nine of the hundreds of witnesses appear in the play.

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ANGLO-JUDAICA

Dr. Jakobovits Arrives

Dr. Immanuel Jakobovits, Chief Rabbi-elect of the United Hebrew Congregations, has arrived in London with his family. On April 11 he will be inducted at the St. John's Wood Synagogue.

The building of the Chief Rabbinate centre, which was to have started on a site in Abbey Road near the synagogue, has been delayed. Planning permission was refused and a new site will have to be found.

Wilson Greets Poale Zion

A message of greetings was sent to Poale Zion by Mr. Harold Wilson, on the occasion of the Jewish Socialist Labour Party's annual conference. The Prime Minister thanked the party for the contribution it had made to the work of the Labour Party.

Marriage Council

The social and education worker, Mrs. Margaret Betty Fagan, has been appointed to the new post of director of the Jewish Marriage Education Council. The work of the council will, it is hoped, be extended among university groups, youth clubs, engaged couples and young people generally, particularly in outer London and the provinces. Teachers, club leaders, rabbis and ministers in these areas may wish to associate themselves with the work.

Mental After-Care

It is hoped that an after-care home for persons at present in mental homes will be opened next year, established by the allocations committee of the Central British Fund. The total cost of the project is estimated at £90,000, of which £20,000 will come from the Claims Conference. A property has been acquired for rebuilding in Finchley Road, London, N.W.3. The allocations committee of the C.B.F. will be responsible for running costs of the home, which will be administered in co-operation with the Jewish Welfare Board.

Blind Society

No other projects will be started by the London Jewish Blind Society until it can extend its Southport home in Manchester. This will be proceeded with as quickly as possible.

The Cecil Rosen Braille Library was consecrated at the Society's day centre in Stamford Hill. Established through a £5,000 donation from Mr. Cecil Rosen, chairman of the newly formed J.B.S. benevolent committee, the library consists of hundreds of religious and secular volumes. It also includes a weekly braille edition of the *Jewish Chronicle*.

Newcastle Housing Association

At the annual meeting of the Newcastle Jewish Welfare Society, a proposal was approved to form a Jewish housing association in Newcastle to provide flatlets for the elderly and lonely members of the community. The committee was instructed to take immediate steps to acquire suitable premises for the purpose.

Hillel Foundation Lecture

Professor Sir Denis Brogan delivered the Hillel Foundation 1967 Lecture on "Judaism in a Pluralistic Society" at University College, London. The speaker declared that Jews can serve Britain's interest better by retaining their Jewish identity than by adopting often exaggerated English characteristics. "The Jewish tradition of learning for its own sake is one of the Jewish characteristics that can contribute much to the life of this country", he said. In his opinion pathological antisemitism had become unfashionable, and Jewish university students should be encouraged to mix with non-Jewish students.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

CANADA

Concern at Extremism

The Canadian Minister of Immigration and Manpower, Mr. Jean Marchand, spoke at a meeting organised by the Citizens' Committee of Toronto, attended by more than 6,000 people. He stated that Canadian laws governing the admission to the country of political extremists would be revised so that permission to enter Canada would be contingent on the invitation having come from a responsible organisation. He also expressed concern at the increase of neo-Nazism in West Germany.

The West German Consul-General, Herr W. Oppel, said that he "fully agreed that certain symptoms" of neo-Nazism in Germany were "bound to disquiet not only the Jewish communities, but all humanity".

Ex-Nazis as Immigrants

According to the executive vice-president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Saul Hayes, the Congress has documentary evidence that at least six major Nazi war criminals are living in Canada. Mr. Hayes made this statement in testimony before the Federal Senate Commerce Immigration Committee studying the Government's White Paper on immigration. He also stated that since the war 76,000 Jews had come to Canada, 90 per cent of whom had settled in Montreal and Toronto.

SYNAGOGUE FIRE IN PARAGUAY

Reports have been received of a fire in the Paraguayan capital of Asuncion, which destroyed the city's newly built synagogue together with eleven sifrei Torah. During the fire two young men jeered and shouted anti-semitic slogans, and are said to have continued shouting even after having been taken into temporary custody by the police. Passers-by in the street made mocking comments during the procession to the cemetery to bury the remains of the sifrei Torah.

ARREST IN BRAZIL

Austrian-born Franz Paul Stangl, former administrative assistant in war-time concentration camps in Poland, including Treblinka and Sobibor, was arrested by police when he left work at a German car factory in Sao Bernardo do Campo.

Stangl was an Austrian policeman until he was drafted by the Nazis after the German take-over in 1938. He spent three years in an allied prison after the war, then returned to Austria, from where he fled to Syria before going to Brazil. The Austrian Government has started extradition proceedings.

EX-LUFTWAFFE COMMANDER ON TRADE MISSION

General Adolf Galland, who led the Luftwaffe's Fighter Command in the last stages of the Second World War and was credited with shooting down 94 Allied aircraft and decorated by Hitler personally several times, visited Sydney at the head of a trade mission of the West German aircraft industry.

POPE JOHN AND PERSECUTION OF JEWS

Monsignor Loris Capovilla, secretary to the late Pope John XXIII, has completely denied reports which have appeared that the late Pope composed a prayer asking God's forgiveness for Christian persecution of the Jews. Pope John throughout his life showed the utmost respect for the Jewish people and initiated the action which resulted in the Ecumenical Council's Declaration on the Jews, said Monsignor Capovilla. However, the supposed prayer was "apocryphal and spurious".

SPANISH RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

For the first time since the Expulsion in 1492, Spanish Jews and Catholics met and prayed together in Madrid in a formal act of reconciliation. This is the result of the passage of a draft law on religious liberty passed by the Spanish Council of Ministers, which permits non-Catholics, including the Jews, to worship in freedom, advertise their services and places of worship, conduct their own marriage ceremonies and establish their own cemeteries or use specially allotted sections of municipal burial grounds. The law recognises religious liberty as a basic human right replacing the concept of "toleration".

There are over 5,000 Jews in Spain, with about 2,000 in Madrid and 2,500 in Barcelona, and small communities existing in Malaga, Valencia, Seville, Cordova, San Sebastian and Bilbao. The Spanish enclaves in North Africa have about 1,800 Jews. Before the Inquisition and Expulsion there were more than 150,000 Jews in Spain.

TRENT RITUAL MURDER LEGEND

The Italian Rabbinical Council, meeting in Rome, has lifted the centuries-old cherem on Trento (Trent) in northern Italy.

The cherem was decreed in times past by the rabbis against the city and the territory of Trent following persecutions of the Jews there perpetrated to avenge the alleged murder by the Jews of the child Simon, to be maintained as long as the cult of Simon of Trent lasted. After the decision of the Catholic Congregation of Rites to reconsider the long-standing cult of Saint Simon, and having ascertained that the cult had ceased in Trent, the Rabbinical Council proclaimed the lifting of the cherem from the city of Trent and its territory, allowing the Jews of Italy and all countries to take up permanent residence there.

CZECH NOVEL ON ISRAEL

A new book by Arnost Lustig, the Jewish author, will be issued by the Czech Writers' Club in Prague this year. "Darling" is a love story set in besieged Jerusalem during the Israeli War of Independence.

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SOVIET RUSSIA

Israel Criticised

After the launching in Tel Aviv of a "Week of Protest" on behalf of Soviet Jewry, a Moscow commentator in Arabic said this campaign of "lies and fabrications" had angered and astonished many people in Israel itself. The commentator said it was curious that, while Israelis "concoct fabrications with the aim of harming the Soviet Union" incidents in Western Germany were ignored, although neo-Nazi activities in that country had recently increased and a large number of these neo-Nazis were responsible for the death of thousands of victims of the Hitlerite terror, including Jews.

Spy Charge

A retired Moscow Jew, Solomon Borisovich Dolnik, has been found guilty by a Moscow city court of spying for Israel, of maintaining contact with members of the Israeli Embassy, and of disseminating anti-Soviet material. *Izvestia* did not state the sentence but only that "the traitor received what he deserved".

Religion in Birobidjan

An article by A. Vinokur, a Soviet Jewish sociologist, in a recent issue of "Nauka i Religia" (Science and Religion), states that of 300 Jews from all walks of life interviewed in Birobidjan, the Jewish Autonomous Region, only eight said they were religious believers. The article gives details of the first sociological survey on the Jewish religion to be carried out in the whole of Russia, including Birobidjan. Vinokur's article entitled "The Snuffing Out of an Ancient Faith", states that there are no facilities for training rabbis, cantors or shochetim in Birobidjan, which has a Jewish population of 15,000 Jews out of a total population of 172,000.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

New Community Chairman

Mr. Frantisek Fuchs, a survivor of Theresienstadt concentration camp, has been elected chairman of the Federation of Jewish communities in Bohemia and Moravia in Prague. He has represented the organisation at conferences in Yugoslavia and Geneva. Formerly vice-chairman, he is succeeded in this post by Mr. Bedrich Hellmann. Both have been active in Jewish organisations even before the war.

The Chief Rabbi of Czechoslovakia, Dr. Richard Feder, expressed pleasure that the Prague Jewish community was sponsoring the studies at the State training seminary for rabbis in Budapest of a young student from Kosice high school in Slovakia, who had agreed to officiate as a rabbi in the city after he qualifies.

It is confirmed that celebrations will be held in the summer of 1968 to mark the millennium of the Prague Jewish community and the 700th anniversary of the Alneuschul in the city.

HUNGARIAN COMPENSATION

In Geneva a neutral commission appointed by the International Committee of the Red Cross approved claims for compensation by 34 Hungarians, victims of pseudo-medical experiments in Nazi concentration camps. Claims of two other Hungarians were rejected. Since 1961, when West Germany agreed to allocate sums of money in compensation to such victims living in countries with which it did not maintain diplomatic relations, 17,500,000 DM. has been paid to more than 552 people living in Poland and Hungary. Victims in Czechoslovakia may also be included.

The West German authorities, it is believed, did not expect that so many victims of these experiments still survived, but the number of claims has been increasing. Although it would seem that responsible Bonn officials have tried to apply pressure on the International Committee of the Red Cross to stop this work, the Committee has carried on.—(J.C.)

Egon Larsen

THE SILENT HEROES

German Rescuers of Jews

In 1934, a Munich citizen by the name of Ludwig Wörl, helped to distribute a clandestinely printed leaflet about the Dachau concentration camp, with the result that he found himself inside it within a few days. Determined not to reveal the writers and printers of the leaflet, he held out under third-degree examination; even solitary confinement in complete darkness for seven months could not make him talk. Later he was allowed to work as a male nurse (he had a sportsman's experience in first aid and mountain rescue), and when an epidemic broke out at Auschwitz he was transferred there. At Auschwitz he forged the lists of those selected for the gas ovens, hid prisoners and gave work to Jewish doctors, which was strictly forbidden. He was found out and sentenced to be shot; but as he was an "Aryan" the sentence had to be confirmed by the Berlin authorities. When his file was returned to Auschwitz, a Jewish lawyer managed to destroy it; this was discovered, and the lawyer was shot before Wörl's eyes. Somehow, Wörl survived Auschwitz and a few more concentration camps, though his sufferings had made him an invalid for life. In 1965, the Yad Vashem organization and 20 Israelis who owed him their lives invited him to Israel, and last year he was awarded the Leo Baeck Prize of the "Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland."

The Wörl story is one of hundreds of cases recorded in H. D. Leuner's book *When Compassion was a Crime: Germany's Silent Heroes, 1933-45* (Oswald Wolff, London, 28s.). "I am one of the sad company of men and women who are the only survivors of large families who done to death," says the author. "We who lived in the free world during the years of the Hitler tyranny, had no obstacles to overcome in proving our kindness, humanity and compassion. We were free to show them. I am not so sure whether we always did and if so, that we took it to the point of sacrifice. Is it not a matter of plain fairness and justice to remember the men and women in Germany for whom any act of compassion meant incalculable hazards?"

Here, then, is his memorial to the ordinary, as a rule non-political "man in the street" in Hitler Germany who obeyed his conscience to help the helpless. There is no point in arguing that these heroes were, unfortunately, in a minority, and that Hitler would never have happened if the mass of the German people had thought and acted like them; for the lonely, silent rescuer it was a solitary deed that could have been punished by death or torture, as in fact it was in many cases. Just because these "good Germans" were comparatively few, their heroism was all the greater, their courage in the face of totalitarian brutality all the more astonishing and admirable.

Heinz David Leuner, a Jew from Breslau, was a journalist who emigrated in 1933, first to Prague and then to Britain, where he became a convert to the Church of Scotland and a minister; he has devoted his work to Christian-Jewish understanding and is a consultant to the World Council of Churches' Committee on the Church and the Jewish People. In his book he has collected all the cases for which he could find documentation, and his list of sources is impressive. Most of the case histories came to light only after the

war, when it was found that, for instance, in Berlin alone 1,500 Jews had survived the nightmare of an "illegal" existence with the help of non-Jewish Germans. There are stories that ought to have a place in the history textbooks, such as that of Herta Zerna (a Social Democrat whom I knew well), who made her cottage near Rheinsberg "a veritable asylum for Jews on the run"; or of the airman Ernst Udet—whom Zuckmayer made the central character of his "Devil's General"—who flew over the grave of a Jewish friend who had committed suicide, and dropped a wreath. Leuner also mentions a non-German rescuer, the Finn Felix Kersten, who helped to save, according to the World Jewish Congress, the lives of some 60,000 Jews, often out of concentration camps, by his influence: he was Himmler's masseur.

It was Dr. Alfred Wiener, founder of the Wiener Library, who suggested to the author that he should write this book. But it would have missed its mark had Leuner avoided all criticism of those who could have helped and did not. There was, as we all know, an international conspiracy of silence on the part of many governments which refused to publish their lists of well-documented Nazi atrocities in the 1930s; it was only after the outbreak of the war that, for instance, the British Government released that frightful mass of information as a White Paper. It must be particularly appreciated that Leuner, as a churchman, names the Christian Churches as guilty parties: "More than any other group, they ought to have applied the tenets of their faith to a situation which so closely resembled that of the first century A.D., when St. Paul used the simile of the human body with its many members to remind the early Christians of their interdependence and mutual responsibilities."

The failure of the Protestant Churches, says Leuner, "presents a sad picture", but that of the Roman Catholic Church "was certainly more calamitous for the cause of freedom and humanity", despite the courageous pronouncements of men like Cardinal Faulhaber and Bishop Galen, and of individual acts by Roman Catholics who helped the Jews—such as Oscar Schindler, who saved more than 1,000 of them by getting them in his Cracow factory, housed and fed them, and finally transferred them to Czechoslovakia. He diverted whole trains with deportees from Auschwitz, and even found a rabbi to perform the last rites for the dying. On the other hand, even a "good" Catholic like Faulhaber weakened his own stand against the Nazis by preaching in his Advent sermon that Israel had been "dismissed from God's service" after the Crucifixion. That was welcome grist to Hitler's mill. Have the Churches learned the lesson of the Nazi years? "The Western world", says Leuner, "must either accept the ethical teaching of the Bible that man is his brother's keeper, or give up any pretentious talk of guarding Christian values."

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Old Acquaintances

Home News: Bernard Grun devised the Offenbach series, "The Mozart of the Champs-Élysées", on BBC-TV.—John (Hans) Kisch, the editor of *Illustrated London News*, will be host to Prince Philip when the weekly celebrates its 125th birthday next month.—Tania Lieven is producing "Three after Six" on I.T.V.—Carl Britzner has retired as head of the BBC German Section.—Ken Adam was the designer and Otto Heller the photographer for the film "Funeral in Berlin".—Berlin-born Andre Previn, who scored many Hollywood films, conducted a concert at the Royal Festival Hall.—Willi Frischauer has written a book called "The Clinic" about the London Clinic, published by Leslie Frewin.

U.S.A.: Berlin-born Mike Nichols has begun casting for Lilian Hellman's "Little Foxes" at the Lincoln Center.—Gerd Oswald directed "Southbound" for the "Daniel Boone" TV series.—Otto Preminger has begun preparations for his next film, "Too Far to Walk".

This and That: Ageless Robert Stolz, who conducted "Die Fledermaus" at Vienna's State Opera in honour of President Tito received the Yugoslavian "Fahne am goldenen Bande" medal.—For the first time since the partition of Germany Erich Kaestner returned to his home town, Dresden, where he read extracts of his works. Conversely, Anna Seghers, who lives in East Germany, visited Heidelberg to read extracts from her novels.—F. R. Lachman, a former Ullstein journalist and for a time on the staff of New York's "Aufbau", became vice-president of the Encyclopaedia Judaica Research Foundation in the States.

Obituary: Franz Waxman, who has died in Hollywood at the age of 60, scored over 200 pictures, including "Sunset Boulevard". He was twice awarded the "Oscar", and was one of the first foreigners to conduct in Moscow and Leningrad. Born in Koenigshuette, Wachsenmann, as he was then known, began as a pianist at Berlin's Kleist-Café, becoming a member of the famous "Weintraub" band before he went into films. He was the founder of the Los Angeles Music Festival, and conducted concerts in London and all over the Continent.—Sixty-seven-year-old Paul Martin, who first directed "Der Sieger" starring Hans Albers, died in Berlin.

Milestones: Hans Breitenstraetter, the blond boxer who was beaten by Otto Flint in October, 1919, turned 70 in Berlin.—Conductor Guiseppe Becce, in whose orchestra Marlene Dietrich once played the violin and Mischa Spolianski the piano, celebrated his 90th birthday in Berlin.—Baritone Willi Domgraf-Fassbaender is 70 years old.

Germany: Erich Pohlmann of London and Lutz Altschul appear in John Osborne's "The Entertainer" at Munich's Schaubuehne.—Walter Mehring read extracts from his works at Berlin's Academy of Arts.—Tilla Durieux will take the part of Mrs. Higgins in the Muenster production of "My Fair Lady".—Anton Walbrook is in Noel Coward's "Duett im Zwielficht" at Munich's kleine Komödie.—Peter Zadek will direct Tankred Dorst's adaptation of "Der Geizige" in Stuttgart.—Several new hotels have opened in Berlin: the Zagreb nearCheckpoint Charlie, the Hamburg near Luetzowplatz and Alsterhof in Wuerzburger Strasse.—The audience booed Ruth Berghaus's production of "Elektra" in East Berlin.—Ludwig Berger will produce his own adaptation of "Hamlet" for TV.—Curt Bois will play in Horvath's "Geschichten aus dem Wiener Wald" at Berlin's Schiller-Theater.

PEM

Ervin Rosenthal (Cambridge)

"I AM JOSEPH, YOUR BROTHER"

A German Symposium

These words, spoken by the late Pope John XXIII to an American-Jewish delegation, could be taken as a motto for the Christian contributors to the symposium "Judenhass-Schuld der Christen?"* where they are quoted. For the principal motive animating these Christians is not—as one might be tempted to assume in view of the large number of books and pamphlets written in Germany—an attempt to rid themselves of a guilt complex. Such an assumption would be not only erroneous, but also unjust. In their urge to lay bare the Christian roots of antisemitism, the contributors are driven as much by brotherly love as by moral fervour.

The symposium is an honest attempt at starting a real dialogue, based on mutual respect and on the unreserved recognition of complete equality between the Jewish and Christian partners. Most of the Christian contributors are Catholics, and though they only speak for themselves, the fact that the Church permitted the publication of their fearless, courageous treatment of Christian responsibility for Jewish suffering lends authority to their words and testifies to the new spirit engendered by the ecumenical movement. They do not spare the Church out of a false sense of loyalty. On the contrary, they show their loyalty to Christian teaching by pointing out misinterpretations of the Scriptures. They write as Christian brothers of the maligned and persecuted Jews, with whom they share the cherished possession of the Hebrew Bible.

Yet they are not satisfied with a measured, objective description of the past and of un-Christian behaviour in the present. They advocate fundamental re-thinking. Their sense of justice and fairness does not allow them to gloss over ugly happenings. They fully realise that, although the hierarchy always deplored violence and the forced conversion of hapless Jews, the parish priests rarely heeded the commands of their superiors. Hence, a good deal of space is devoted to practical teaching and preaching. We have long known that it is the ordinary priest (of whatever Christian denomination) who has it in his power to change the false image of the Jew in the minds of his parishioners, especially of the children receiving religious instruction. It is, therefore, good to learn from many a contribution how much importance their authors attach to the right kind of teaching.

The contributors know that their attitude has as yet not found many followers, and that the echo of the work of the Vatican Councils is still rather faint in the parish. Yet it must be acknowledged that the two Vatican Councils have given a considerable impetus to efforts in this direction. This is most encouraging, irrespective of the Jewish response or lack of it. The foremost task lies with the Christians. It is up to them to correct misconceptions and to create a new atmosphere, based on a just appreciation of the partially biased Jewish image in the Gospels. In this connection we must not forget that the re-interpretation of certain anti-Jewish passages in the New Testament—a task to which many Christian theologians are devoted, especially in Germany,

is necessarily a delicate, slow process and calls for discipline. Facile optimism would be dangerous. The real test is the sermon from the pulpit, the Sunday School, the extension of brotherly love to the Jewish as well as to the Christian neighbour.

But, alas, man is not only and not always rational. More knowledge of the historical facts will certainly be necessary. Yet even more important is a fuller awareness of the irrational and anti-rational fears and apprehensions which were roused and fed by dangerous myths, such as legends about ritual murder, desecration of the Host, poisoning of wells and the so-called Jewish world-conspiracy as depicted in the forgery known as *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

If we remember these devilish fabrications we may perhaps become doubtful about the efficacy of such scholarly attempts as the book under review. We would, therefore, do well also to recommend to our Jewish and Christian friends three books relevant to antisemitism. One is Joshua Trachtenberg's *The Devil and the Jews*, first published in 1943 and re-issued as a Meridian Book in conjunction with "The Jewish Publication Society of America" in 1961. It bears the significant sub-title "The Medieval Conception of the Jews and its Relation to modern Antisemitism". The second is Maurice Samuel's *Blood Accusation—The Strange History of the Beiliss Case* (Jewish Publication Society of America, Philadelphia, 1966). The third work is the just published book by Norman Cohn: *Warrant for Genocide* (Eyre & Spottiswoode, London, 1967). Its sub-title, "The Myth of the Jewish World Conspiracy and the Protocols of the Elders of Zion", underlines the irrational element and its immeasurable power for evil. The book is a masterly analysis, told in sober academic language, of a terrifyingly effective myth which was elevated to an efficient political philosophy by the Nazis, sowing death and destruction among all the Jews they could lay their bloodstained hands on.

Reverting to Pater Eckert's and Dr. Ehrlich's "Judenhass", we find there more than a faint echo of this world of myths which appeals to the instincts of simple folk. The three chapters by Hruby, Krotzer and W. P. Eckert on the ritual murder legend and other accusations against the Jews are strikingly supplemented by B. B. Blumenkranz's "Das Bilder-evangelium des Hasses".

It is impossible to do justice to the variety and richness of this combined Christian-Jewish effort in a short review, and it would therefore be invidious to single out individual contributions. Suffice it to list at least the topics contained in six sections: I. Fragen der Geschichte (with a remarkable conspectus by W. P. Eckert entitled, "Verpasste Chancen christlich-juedischer Begegnung in der deutschen Geschichte", ranging over the whole history of the Jews in Germany to the bitter end). II. Das Bild des Juden in der Verkuendigung (including Paul Winter's "Zum Prozess Jesu", Ben-Chorin's "Das Jesusbild im modernen Judentum", John Hennig's "Die Stellung der Juden in der Liturgie", Jos. Solzbacher's "Die Juden in der Katechetischen Unterweisung", and Gerh. Teske's "Die Juden in der christlichen Verkuendigung, Versaumnisse und Verzeichnungen"). This section is of practical significance and

carries important suggestions about the possibilities of transforming the image of the Jew in Christian eyes. III. Das religioes bestimmte Bild vom Juden (briefly mentioned in the preceding paragraph of this review). IV. Die Stellung der Kirche zu den Juden im Licht des Konzils (including Sister Marie Louis-Gabriel's "Kirche und Juden zwischen den beiden Vatikan Konzilen" and E. L. Ehrlich's "Die Juden und das Konzil"). This section is of special interest in view of the "Declaration about the Jews" adopted by the Second Vatican Council. VI. Moeglichkeiten und Grenzen des Gesprachs. Two chapters in this section are concerned with Martin Buber. The third, "Edom sucht Israel", by I. N. Vielmetti pleads for self-understanding by both Christians and Jews since neither the enlightenment, nor tolerance and emancipation have succeeded in bringing Christians and Jews together. It ends on a significant note which pervades all Christian contributions: "Christians and Jews are not partners in a religious disputation . . . they are, however, partners in one *Heilsgeschichte*, which cannot exist without Edom and Israel. To achieve its consummation Edom must at all times (and all the time) be on the way to his brother Israel".

It is in the same spirit that the message by Weihbischof W. Kempe describes Paul's *Letter to the Romans* as the basis for a true dialogue: the election of Israel is recognised, hence the second Vatican Council recognises that the New Covenant is rooted in the history of Israel. The Bishop expresses the hope that the book will "contribute to the emergence of an epoch in which the *ecclesia* becomes more and more conscious of its origin in the *synagoga* and in which the Synagogue considers the Church as her younger sister, both mindful of their common origin in the same Father in Heaven".

In the introduction, the joint editor, Pater Eckert, stresses the need for taking our bearings from the Bible in any Christian-Jewish dialogue, because otherwise we operate in a vacuum. He notes a new interest among Jews in Jesus and in the theology of Paul.

Together with the late Paul Wilpert of the "Thomas-Institut an der Universitaet Koeln", Pater Eckert is also responsible for annual conferences on aspects of the cultural life of the Middle Ages. The papers are subsequently published in *Miscellanea Mediaevalia*, and the fourth volume is devoted to medieval Judaism under the title "Judentum im Mittelalter. Beitrage zum christlich-juedischen Gesprach" (Berlin, 1966). It contains much relevant material on the significance of Judaism for Christianity and on the uneasy relationship between the two faiths and their adherents.

The Christian attitude to Judaism and the Jews has always been ambivalent, and while friendly relations existed between individual scholars, Christian hostility hardened, especially from the Crusades onwards. It is, therefore, not surprising that the Hebrew polemical literature of the Middle Ages reacts in a hostile way to Christian attacks and attempts at conversion. It is no wonder either that also today there is as yet little eagerness on the Jewish side for a genuine dialogue with Christians: the partly religious basis of modern antisemitism with its disastrous consequences for European Jewry is too vivid in our memories. Some considerable time will have to pass until the Jews can join in such a dialogue on a broad front. In the meantime, we must warmly welcome and support common efforts as reflected in this publication: the book is exemplary in its conception and execution.

* *Judenhass Schuld der Christen? Versuch eines Gesprachs*, ed. W. P. Eckert und E. L. Ehrlich. Hans Driewer Verlag. Essen, 1964. 528 pp., 47 illustrations. DM.19.80.

Herbert Freedman

LETTER FROM JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S NATIONAL ARCHIVES

"Israel's archives, big as they appear to us, are actually only one single archive with autonomous departments," said Dr. Alex Bein, Director of the Zionist Central Archives when he showed me the blueprint of the future compound of the National Archives in the western part of Jerusalem, opposite the Knesseth. The new buildings will house the Israel State Archive, the Zionist Central Archives and the archives of the Historical Society, each of them connected with a fourth, central building—the common reading room.

"The student or scholar who looks for some material would not always know in which of the archives to find it," Dr. Bein explained and, therefore, a common reading room is both purposeful and economical in regard to building costs and maintenance.

The competition for the building plans, in which six well-known Israeli architects participated, was won by Mr. D. A. Brutzkus, who envisages the new national archives as a functional edifice in harmony with its surroundings and limited in height by the Knesseth. Building operations will start now and are to take two or three years.

About half of the area will be apportioned to the State Archive, one third to the Zionist Archives and the rest to the Historical Society. The whole complex will extend over 12,000 square metres with two stories underground—an ideal and safe storage. The State, the Zionist Executive and the Historical Society share in financing the project.

Search for a Jewish Anthem

Just these days the Zionist Archives received a collection which is an historical curiosity—the results of a competition for a Jewish anthem, arranged by Theodor Herzl and Max Nordau in 1897-1898. The material was in the possession of Erwin Rosenberg, one of Herzl's

first secretaries who recently died in his 91st year. The competition for a suitable text for a Jewish anthem was published in April, 1897 in the Berlin monthly, "Zion", with 500 francs as the first prize. Though "Hatikva" was then already known, it was first sung in 1906 at the end of the 6th Zionist Congress, the so-called "Uganda-Congress", and even then this fact was struck from the agenda. Only in 1933, at the 18th Zionist Congress, was "Hatikvah" recognised as the official Zionist hymn.

The entries to the competition are largely a dilettante imitation of German patriotic songs then in fashion. Who would not think of Ernst Moritz Arndt when he reads: "Was ist der Juden Vaterland? Ist's an der blauen Donau Strand, Ist's etwa der Germanen Land? . . . Ist's Polenland, ist's Russenland. . . . Dort wo einst der Tempel stand, an des Heiligen Jordans Strand".

Theodor Koerner's "Frisch auf mein Volk! Die Flammenzeichen rauchen" seems to have inspired "Wach auf, mein Volk! Du darfst nicht laenger saeumen, wach auf, mein Volk, aus dumpfer Voelkernacht", as well as "Wach auf, wach auf, mein Israel, wie lang willst Du noch trauern".

Cedars play a big part in the national imagination. "Hoerst Du die Zedern am Libanon rauschen, stuermisch bewegt von der heiligen Luft", or: "Du buhlst vergeblich mit der Ficht' und Eiche, das Reich der schlanken Zeder nur ist Dein".

"Es braust ein Ruf wie Donnerhall" rings from three poems: "Ein Sturmruf braust mit Macht durch alle Lande"; "Ein Ruf der Erloesung wie donnernder Schall durchzittert der Erde gewaltigen Ball"; and "Es geht ein Schlachtruf durch die Welt, es droehnt durch alle Lande".

There were also entries in other languages, among them in English, such as this: ". . . and justice, freedom, faith and strength

—know well, are sent by God where'er His people dwell".

On June 21, 1898, Nordau wrote to Herzl: "I have spent a dull day reading the poems. They prove that of our talents (and no doubt, they exist) we have not won a single one for our ideas and that the poor dilettantes who took part in the competition know only sanctimonious unctious or boastful bragging, both not just the sentiments which we need. . . . Of course, rewarding the prize is out of the question. . . ."

MORE HEINE MANUSCRIPTS
COME TO PARIS

Will Paris soon become a leading centre for Heinrich Heine research activities? This question is indeed pertinent, especially after the famous Bibliothèque Nationale in rue de Richelieu recently acquired a very considerable number of hitherto unknown Heine manuscripts, documents, papers and correspondence from the well-known collection of the Schocken Foundation, Jerusalem. French literary circles have good reason to be proud and excited about the successful conclusion of this Jerusalem-Paris deal. Newspapers and literary magazines have expressed their satisfaction. It seems that the new material has immensely improved the prospects of the long-planned final and complete edition of the poet's works and writings, based on exhaustive and most conclusive critical and linguistic findings. The outstanding French Heine scholar, Louis Hay, has published a specifically informative article in "Le Monde" on the chances offered by perusal of the collection.

For the moment, however, all this has to be kept in abeyance, because first the experts of the French National Library's manuscript section have to prepare a detailed inventory of the papers and to compile a comprehensive catalogue for researchers. This will take many months. Only then will the material be accessible to the public, both to professionals and to the vast audience of other curious Heine addicts.

J. RAPHAEL (Ramat Gan).



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W. Rosenstock

A COMPREHENSIVE WORK ABOUT THE COURT JEWS

"Zu den Nachkommen der Hoffaktorenfamilie van Geldern gehoert auch Chajim Bueckeberg, der in Deutschland als Schriftsteller unter dem Namen Heinrich Heine bekannt ist." The book from which we quote* was not published under the Nazis. Its title page quite clearly shows 1953 as the year of publication. Probably, the author, who had already written articles about the Court Jews during the war, forgot to adjust the manuscript to the changed political situation. In a way, we must be grateful for this negligence, because we thus know where he stands, or at least stood, when he started his research work on the subject. The only sad aspect of the mishap is that the publishers who are a party to it are the old-established firm of Duncker and Humblot (Motto: "Vincit Veritas"), who owe so much to the late Dr. Ludwig Feuchtwanger, their former production manager. Heine's contribution to German culture would certainly not have been less important if his first name had been of Hebrew origin and his surname derived from a German town. Yet the use of the sobriquet "Chajim Bueckeberg"—the family of Heine's grandfather, Heymann (Chajim) Heine, came from Bueckeberg—was one of the less subtle devices to disqualify him as a German poet and writer. Curiously enough, Schnee himself later contradicts his own statement by writing in the third volume of his work that the family had been called Heine at least from the 17th century onwards.

Schnee rightly points out that an historian who deals with a Jewish subject has to keep clear both of antisemitic bias and of philo-Semitic glorification. By the manner in which he sometimes describes the personalities and transactions of Court Jews he certainly lives up to the second of the two requirements. The work is full of unnecessary invectives and derogatory remarks. It is, of course, undeniable that many Court Jews owed their success to the shrewdness of their business methods. Yet in this respect they are in good company with quite a few types of non-Jewish entrepreneurs. Furthermore, as the book shows, they displayed this shrewdness to no lesser extent when dealing with their Jewish competitors. The author admits that many transactions were carried out with the connivance or even at the command of the rulers in whose services they were. In quite a few instances, Court Jews achieved their objects by bribing influential officials; yet, as the author himself states, "douceurs" in recognition of favours were the accepted custom of those days.

Whilst it is not possible for the outsider to ascertain whether the author has perused all documents at his disposal in an unbiased way, the thoroughness and diligence of his research deserve full recognition. He has delved into the archives of practically all former German states and principalities and has thus compiled the first comprehensive survey of the Court Jews and their functions.

The role of the Court Jews was a twofold one. Externally, i.e. in relation to their environment, they had to provide the rulers with the means for the maintenance of their courts and the conduct of their wars. They also increased the personal wealth of their masters

* Heinrich Schnee: *Die Hoffinanz und der moderne Staat*. Duncker & Humblot, Berlin. Four volumes (1953, 1954, 1955 and 1963).

and contributed to the economic development of their territories. Internally, i.e. in relation to their fellow-Jews, they were, due to their position, the leaders of the communities, the sponsors of Jewish learning, and the first champions of Jewish emancipation. Through the history of their families runs, almost without exception, one common trend. The first generation accumulated the wealth. The members of the second generation often lacked the fathers' business acumen but had socially "arrived". Their contacts with their fellow-Jews loosened at the pace at which they were accepted by their Gentile environment, especially by the aristocracy. In the third generation at latest, these contacts were finally severed by baptism and mixed marriages.

Most descendants of Court Jews were absorbed by the German majority population. It was only in 1933 that many of them, often to their own surprise, found themselves classified as "non-Aryans", while others whose Jewish ancestry amounted to less than 25% were not even affected by the Nazi legislation.

Schnee's work is particularly interesting from a genealogical point of view, and the author especially mentions the interest expressed in his research by the descendants of Court Jews in Germany and countries of emigration, e.g., in England and the U.S.A. The book shows that almost all families were closely inter-related, a fact which did not always preclude feuds and litigation, but often resulted in close co-operation and mutual assistance. Thus we learn that the prominent Court Jew Leffmann Behrens Cohen in Hanover intervened for his cousin, Isaak Heine in Bueckeberg, the poet's great-great-grandfather. The chapter on the Heine family also reveals that it was a fallacy to assume that Heine's father made a great conquest by marrying into the van Geldern family. In fact, at the time of the marriage, the van Geldern family was already on the decline, whereas the Heine family was still in the ascendancy.

The four volumes of the work classify the families according to the Courts to which they were attached. The first volume deals with the Court Jews in Brandenburg-Prussia, e.g., the Schulhoffs and Liebmanns and the Ephraims and Itzigs. The second volume carries detailed descriptions of the Court Jews in Hanover and Braunschweig, e.g., the Behrens, Davids, Cohens and Israel Jacobson. It also covers Saxony, where Berend Lehmann played an important role. The most prominent Court Jews in Mecklenburg were the Hinrichsens, descended from the Sephardi Ruben Hinrichs (Henriques) of Glueckstadt. The third volume carries particularly much new material because it is based on research work at the Bishopric sees and in the smaller principalities. There were, among others, the Oppenheims in Cologne and the Breslaus in Munster, whose descendants were ennobled under the name of Bresselau von Bressendorf. In the smaller Courts we meet the Stieglitz (Waldeck) and the Heines (Schaumburg-Lippe and Lippe Detmold) and Wolf Breidenbach (Principality of Isenburg), one of the champions of the emancipation.

The fourth volume deals with the Courts in Southern Germany. A special chapter is dedicated to the banker Salomon Haber (born

1764) in Karlsruhe, who was also a member of the Israelitische Oberrat for Baden. He was ennobled in 1829. One of his sons, Moritz von Haber, is the main character in Alfred Neumann's novel, "Koenig Haber", and one of his granddaughters, Julie, was married to Major Freiherr Herwarth von Bittenfeld. Another "dynasty" of Court financiers, domiciled mainly in Stuttgart, was the Kaulla family. It owes most of its initial success to "Madame" Karola Raphael Kaulla (1739-1809). Her predominant position is reflected in the fact that all members of the family, including her brothers, adopted her first name (Kaulla is derived from Chaile, a Hebrew circumscription of Karola) as their surnames and that her children, too, took the name, under which "Madame" had become known instead of that of their father, Kiefe Auerbacher. The third family whose ascendancy plays an important part in the volume is that of the Seligmanns, whose most prominent member, Aron Elias, was baronised in Bavaria as Freiherr von Eichthal (1814). The author also deals in detail with the case of Joseph Sues Oppenheimer ("Jew Sues") and with the family of Hirsch auf Gereuth. An interesting sideline is the fact that, when the Habers and other Jewish financiers were active in Baden, their opposite number on the Government side, the Director of the Finance Ministry, Ernst Philipp von Sensburg, was the son of a baptised Jew and an unbaptised Jewess.

The volume concludes with a collection of essays on some general subjects connected with the history of the Court Jews. One of these deals with the ennoblement of prominent Jewish financiers. One of the first Jews who, after his baptism, became an Imperial baron was Karl Abraham Wetzlar (1715-1799); he was created "Freiherr von Plankenstern" (1777). The first titled unbaptised Jew was Israel Hoenig (1724-1808), who became Edler von Hoenigsberg in 1789. In Prussia the first elevated Jew was Ferdinand Moritz Delmar (1781-1838), a descendant of the Court Jew Salomon Moses Levy; after his baptism he became a Baron in 1810. More than 60 years later, the banker Gerson Bleichroeder (1822-1893) was ennobled; he remained a professing Jew, but his children were baptised. The unique case of a titled rabbi in Germany was that of Rabbi Dr. Josef von Maier (Stuttgart).

This review has laid stress on the genealogical aspects of Schnee's work. However, the wealth of material compiled by the author is of even greater importance for the evaluation of the wider economic, political and social issues which came to the fore during a decisive transitory period in the history of the Jews in Germany.

JEWISH FUR TRADERS IN LEIPZIG

Two Articles in German Periodicals

An article by Dr. Wilhelm Harmelin (London) about Jews in the Leipzig Fur Trade was published in the German periodical "Tradition—Zeitschrift fuer Firmengeschichte und Unternehmerbiographie", December, 1966. Based on the monograph by the same author published in the 1964 Year Book of the Leo Baeck Institute, it describes both the general position of Jews in the trade and the development of its leading firms. The article also deals with the contributions made by Jewish fur traders to the charitable work of the community and of the municipality of Leipzig. Quite a few of the families concerned were established in Leipzig for several generations, but had originally come from the Galician town of Brody. From there they had paid regular visits to the Leipzig Fair before they took permanent residence in that town. The gradual shifting from Brody to Leipzig is described in another interesting article by Dr. Harmelin, published in "Das Pelzgewerbe", 1966, No. 4.

IN MEMORIAM

FRITZ ERLER

Fritz Erler, leader of the Social Democratic Party in the German Federal Parliament and Deputy Chairman of the S.P.D., died at the age of 53. He was associated with the party since 1931. A staunch anti-Nazi, he resigned as an official of the Berlin Municipality in 1935. His illegal political activities led to his arrest in 1938, and he was sentenced by the People's Court to ten years' penal servitude. He resumed his political work after the war and was a member of the Bonn Parliament since its inception in 1949. Erler always showed a deep understanding for the special problems of Jewry and was also a helpful friend to the State of Israel. The early death of this gifted statesman and politician is considered a great loss by his friends and political adversaries alike.

DR. FRANZ HERRMANN

On March 7 Dr. Franz Herrmann, Oberlandesgerichtspraesident i.R. and head of the Civil Servants Compensation Department of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, passed away at the age of 80. He was probably the oldest active official of the Federal Republic.

Under the Weimar Republic, Dr. Herrmann was, as Ministerialrat, in charge of the Political Department of the Prussian Ministry of Justice. When the Nazis came to power, he was arrested at the instigation of the infamous Dr. Freisler. He emigrated to Chile, but returned to Germany after the war. Innumerable persecuted former civil servants owe the reinstatement in their rights to him. His work also comprised the pension claims of former Jewish communal officials.

In appearance and manners, Dr. Herrmann had something of the gentleman of the old school. His departure is a grave loss for the Ministry, for his colleagues and friends and for the persecutees.—(egl).

DR. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER

Professor Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, the nuclear physicist and a pioneer of America's atom bomb, died in Princeton at the age of 62. He was born in New York the son of a German Jewish immigrant, graduated from Harvard and obtained his Ph.D. degree at Goettingen when he was 23. Professor Oppenheimer was a member of the board of governors of both the Hebrew University and the Weizmann Institute.

WALTER HAMMER

The author and publisher, Walter Hammer, died in his 78th year. Hailing from the "Wandervogel" movement, he edited two periodicals before 1933 which had a great influence on the German Youth Movement, "Junge Menschen" and "Fackelreiter". When the Nazis came to power, he was arrested. Later, he emigrated to Denmark, but was rearrested after the Nazis had invaded that country. He had to serve five years' penal servitude in Brandenburg. His publications after the war included "Hohes Haus in Henkers Hand", a book in memory of the murdered and persecuted former members of the German Reichstag.

RABBI DR. J. ANSBACHER

Rabbi Dr. Jonas Ansbacher died at Otto Schiff House in his 89th year. Prior to his emigration, he held office in Stuttgart and later in Wiesbaden. In this country he was rabbi of the Hampstead Adath Synagogue, Broadhurst Gardens, until he retired in 1955. His piety and observance were linked with tolerance and an endearing sense of humour. He will be sadly missed by his fellow-residents and many friends.

DEPORTATIONS FROM HOLLAND

Wartime Criminals Sentenced

Dr. William Harster and two of his subordinates in war-time Holland were in a Munich court sentenced to terms of hard labour for complicity in the deportation and murder of many thousands of Dutch Jews. Harster, the head of the German security police in Holland between July, 1940, and the end of 1943, was sentenced to 15 years' hard labour for his part in the deportation and murder of 82,854 Jews. The period of 13 months spent in custody before his trial and the eight years he served in a Dutch prison will, however, be deducted from the sentence. Wilhelm Zoepf, a former S.S. major who was head of the Jewish department at The Hague from 1942 to 1944 was gaoled for nine years for complicity in the deportation and murder of 54,982 Jews. The time he spent in pre-trial custody was also deducted from his sentence. Gertrud Slotke, Zoepf's former secretary, was gaoled for five years for complicity in the deportation and murder of 42,729 Jews. Her counsel gave notice of appeal against sentence.

During the trial Zoepf admitted responsibility for the deportation of Anne Frank, who died in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in 1945.

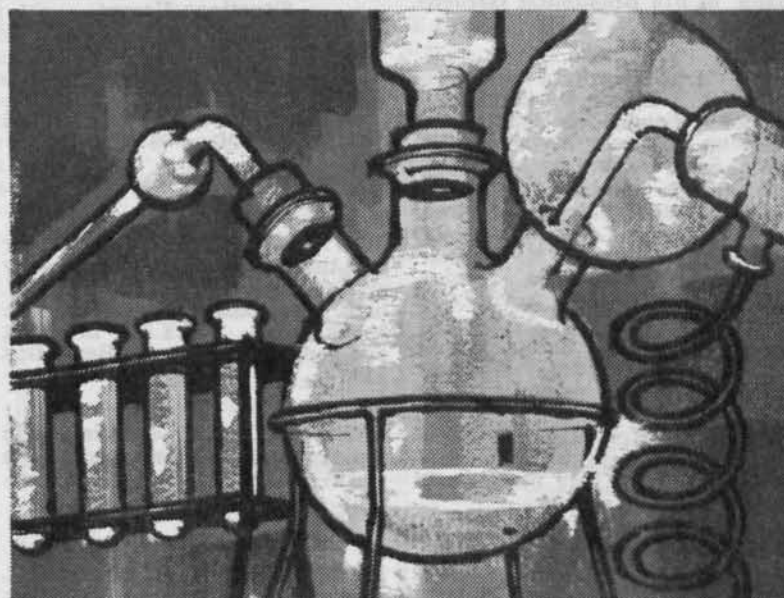
Giving judgement, the presiding judge said that such a massacre as carried out by the Nazis had never happened before. The court had decided against a life sentence because the initiative and motives for the crimes had emanated from the Nazi State and rulers. It had been held to the defendants' credit that they had believed in doing their duty and that they had inwardly dissociated themselves from their crimes and had led orderly lives since the war. In addition they had shown signs of repentance.

There were protestations in the court and shouts of "String them up" when the sentences were pronounced. At the end of the trial a large crowd tried to assault Slotke.



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INDOMITABLE CENTENARIAN

Mrs. Minnie Schlesinger-Woolf

On April 17, Mrs. Minnie Schlesinger-Woolf, of Eileen Goodenday House, 42 Nevers Square, London, S.W.5, will celebrate her hundredth birthday. Of British parentage, she lived in Berlin for many years until she emigrated to Holland after the November, 1938, pogroms. During the war she was, as a British subject, repatriated to this country. In Berlin, she was well known to many Jewish families, where she gave English lessons. Notwithstanding her great age, she still teaches foreign staff members of the Old Age Home in which she now lives. She also pays regular visits to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren in London, and even travels to Holland to meet one of her daughters who lives there with her family. Throughout the years, Mrs. Schlesinger has taken a keen interest in the AJR. She was also an avid reader of *AJR Information*, as long as her eyesight made this possible. Former friends of hers who would like to congratulate her personally are requested not to call on her on the actual birthday, but rather before or after the event and, if possible, after previous arrangement (Tel.: FRE. 4678).

In an article, "Granny Woolf will be 100

years old," published in the *Guardian* on February 15, the wife of one of her grandsons describes the long and eventful life of the centenarian and the courage with which she met adversity on many occasions. We received the following tribute from one of her former pupils:

"Dear 'Granny Woolf,'
"The article about you in the *Guardian* struck me like a flash: I had been one of your pupils in Berlin, more than forty years ago, long before the Nazis came to power. Many of the people of my circle are dead now, some died a natural death, others perished in Hitler's camps. Those of us who are still alive had no idea at that time, when we studied English for pleasure, that it would one day become our bread-and-butter language. I vividly remember how impressed we were with your granddaughter, four years old then, who spoke English to you, and German to us, as though it was the most natural thing. As she is of your stock, I hope she survived the years when she had to live underground in Holland without being too deeply scarred. I want to wish you that for a long time to come you may go

on enjoying what life has to offer. As far as your grandchildren, or for this purpose my own grandchildren and all their contemporaries are concerned, I wish with all my heart that they may never have cause to realise fully what your generation, your children's and mine went through."

BIRTHDAY RECEPTION FOR DR. SOLOMON BIRNBAUM

Under the auspices of the Institute of Jewish Studies, a reception was held at Hannah Karminski House in honour of Dr. Solomon Birnbaum, who recently became 75. The function was attended by scholars, writers, rabbis and a number of personal friends of the celebrant. Professor Dr. S. Stein, who presided, paid tribute to Dr. Birnbaum's outstanding work as a Hebraist and Yiddishist. His achievements include work on the Dead Sea Scrolls and research in the grammar and history of Yiddish. From 1922 until 1933 he lectured at Hamburg University. In this country he was Lecturer of Hebrew Palaeography at the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London from 1936-1957. Other speakers at the function were Dr. J. Maitlis, Mr. Joseph Leftwich, Dr. Meir Gertner, Dr. Robert Weltsch and Rabbi M. Knobiewicz.

FAMILY EVENTS

Birthday

Fabian.—Mrs. Frieda Fabian, of 1 Elmcroft Crescent, London, N.W.11, will celebrate her 70th birthday on April 14.

Engagement

Steiner : Lehmann.—The engagement is announced between Henrietta Steiner, of 790 North Circular Road, N.W.2, and Manfred Lehmann, of 57a Broadhurst Gardens, N.W.6.

Deaths

Juda.—Mrs. Henrietta Juda, of Otto Schiff House, 14 Netherhall Gardens, London, N.W.3, passed away on February 8, in her 91st year. Sadly missed by her family and friends.

Kuttner.—Mrs. Johanna Kuttner (née Dzialiner-Loewenthal), beloved wife of Dr. H. H. Kuttner, 31 Compayne Gardens, London, N.W.6, passed away peacefully on February 24.

Rauchmann.—Miss Selma Rauchmann, of Salisbury, Wiltshire (formerly Berlin) passed away on March 15.

Ruhemann.—Mrs. Marianne Ruhemann died peacefully on March 7, aged 75, after a long disablement but short suffering.

Siegel.—Miss Therese Siegel, for 20 years a teacher at the North-West Jewish Day School, passed away on March 14 in her 68th year. Deeply mourned by the Essinger family.

Weltmann.—Mrs. Ella Weltmann (née Brann), of 20 Gwynant Place, Manchester, 20, passed away on February 21. Sadly missed by her husband, Dr. Martin Weltmann (formerly Berlin), her sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren.

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MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Weinberger.—Nora, married name Goldberg or Goldenberg, born 1916, lived in Vienna, last known address 47 Gordon Street, Tel Aviv. Father, Kommerzialrat Wilhelm Weinberger. Present address required for restitution claim. Box 817.

Enquiries by AJR

Heymann.—Rosa Heymann, last known German address: Breslau, Telegrafenstrasse, born 1908.

Meier.—Mr. Arnold Meier (or Maier), born approximately 1906, of Spich, near Cologne, understood to be a teacher at a London institute or school for higher education.

FAMILY RESEARCH

Mr. Henry Sergevich, 214 West 96th Street, Apartment 5H, New York, N.Y. 10025, U.S.A., seeks genealogical data re: (1) The daughters, Malke (Amalie?) and Therese, born 1817 and 1823 respectively, of Moses Rosenberg and Rosa (née Levy), of Neuwedell, NM. (2) The families related to Rosa Rosenberg (née Levy), who died at the age of 82 in Zachau (Pomerania) in 1880. (3) Great-grandchildren of the brothers Aron (Arndt) and Lewin, who moved from Neuwedell to Lubasch in 1805. They married around 1810/20, had two sisters in Filehne, one brother (Moses Rosenberg) in Neuwedell. Which family names they adopted is not known. (4) Descendants of the four oldest children of Casper Mendelsohn and née Potzernheim, two sons and two daughters born between 1825 and 1832 in Fuerstenberg (Mecklenburg). Their first names do not appear in the few records available. (5) Place of birth, background, etc., of Henriette Schoenfeld (née Schoenfeld), wife of Joseph, of Potsdam, died 1910 in Luckenwalde. (6) Any information concerning "Tante Hannchen aus Anklam", died between 1900/1910, born about 1830, related to Schoenfelds, of Potsdam and Brandenburg, also to family Hirsch (Waren in Mecklenburg) and the brothers Hirsch in Luckenwalde.

In Memoriam

Leopold Gutherz

Doris Gutherz

geb. Graumann

Suse Dahm

geb. Gutherz

Dresden

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Eugen Winterberg

ANTHOLOGY OF MAX BROD'S REVIEWS

The following article is the last contribution by our friend Mr. Eugen Winterberg, who recently passed away at the age of 76. Scion of a well-known Prague family, he was deeply rooted in the past literary and artistic life of his home town. He will be gratefully remembered by all who knew him as a sincere and widely interested personality.—The Ed.

Brod's anthology consists of past criticisms of German and Czech plays, German and Czech operas and performances in the Prague concert halls, together with a recent article on Gustav Mahler. These are all called to mind in this welcome reprint of the "Prager Sternenhimmel",* whose stars now shine again with their former brilliance.

The "twenties" with which Brod is concerned was the great period of the "Prager Dichterschule", of which he was a prominent member. He was indefatigable in his efforts to awaken and deepen his colleagues' interest in the Czech theatre and music and to cultivate his own personal association with Czech literary figures and composers. These efforts brought him into contact with the Czech composer Leos Janáček to whom a whole chapter of his book is devoted.

All Max Brod's operatic and theatrical reviews are happy and enthusiastic, especially when they deal with works, the creators of which he had advised or assisted. This is especially true of the opera "Jenufa" by Leos Janáček which he discovered. Enthusiastically he describes its first performance at the Prague Czech National Theatre as a "happy event." He translated the text into German and assisted its successful presentation at leading opera houses throughout the world. There is no negative approach in Brod's criticism. He is always searching for the positive merits of a presentation, and in his essay entitled "Der Biograph" he criticises jealous critics and complains about the "Schwerhoerigkeit" of the public. He is exultant, however, when he discusses "Katja Kabanova", the second opera of his admired friend Janáček; he also trans-

* Max Brod: Prager Sternenhimmel, Musik- und Theatererlebnisse der Zwanziger Jahre. 252 pp. Paul Zsolnay Press, Vienna & Hamburg, 1966. 18DM.

lated the text of this opera into German. Brod describes "Jenufa" as the blossom and "Katja Kabanova" as the ripe fruit.

It is understandable that the "Good Soldier Schweik", which is discussed towards the end of the second part of the book, made a great impression on Brod who was so familiar with Czech humour, and caused him to dramatise this popular piece after seeing its first performance locally.

The book is remarkably comprehensive in that it not only recalls names like Sterne, Mussorgski, Smetana, Schönberg, Zemlinsky, Mahler, Suk, Straniek, Novak and Krása, not only renders homage to Richard Strauss and brings Schiller, Goethe and Mozart to mind, but also describes the paths followed by Moissi, Pallenberg, Massary, Romanovsky, Eisenbach and many other men of fame of whose success Brod was a witness.

GERMAN AWARD FOR HANS FEIBUSCH

The painter and lithographer, Hans Feibusch (London), was awarded the German Federal Cross of Merit. He was born in Frankfurt/Main 69 years ago. In this country he became particularly well known through his mural paintings in Chichester Cathedral and many churches.

FRENCH SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ISRAELIS

Mr. David Zagha, a member of the council of the Central Consistoire of France and president of the Jewish communities in Cannes, Antibes and Juan les Pins, has initiated a scheme to provide educational facilities for brilliant but needy youngsters in Israel. The aim is to establish one thousand scholarships for young Israelis, to enable them to have secondary and university education.

At his own expense Mr. Zagha is visiting Jewish communities all over the world to obtain support for his scheme.

CARDINAL FRINGS'S WARNING

Cardinal Frings, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cologne, published a message on the occasion of this year's Brotherhood Week held under the slogan "Be vigilant".

The German people must remain vigilant if they were to prevent a recurrence of Nazi barbarism, said the Cardinal. He referred to the Holocaust and the murder of more than six million Jews, concluding: "It is necessary for all of us to work for peaceful togetherness with our Jewish fellow citizens, and to make good the injustices that have taken place, as far as that is possible."

This statement is understood to be a reply to the reports that the Cardinal told Rabbi Max Nussbaum, chairman of the American Section of the World Jewish Congress, that the Jews provoked Nazi wrath by parading their wealth, that he saw no danger of a revival of Nazism in Germany because almost no Jews lived there, and that he questioned the generally accepted figure of six million Jewish victims of Nazism as being too high. Msgr. Frings said that he was misunderstood. Cologne Jewish community leaders met him and both sides expressed regret at the misunderstandings which had arisen because of Rabbi Nussbaum's charges.

The *Juedische Presse-Dienst* published by the "Zentralrat" of the Jews in Germany recalls that, when the Nazis were in power, Cardinal Frings courageously spoke condemning the atrocities committed against racial groups and that he was also one of the leading protagonists of the Vatican's new approach to Judaism. Cardinal Frings, the bulletin states, has made it abundantly clear that he had never doubted the murder of millions of Jews and that by trying to explain the economic antisemitism which helped to bring the Nazis to power he did not identify himself with it. The bulletin also criticised Jewish visitors from abroad meeting representatives of German public life without consulting the Zentralrat.

DEATH OF KURT KROTOS

After a long illness our friend Dr. Kurt Krotos, House Committee Chairman of Osmond House and member of the AJR Executive, passed away on March 19, shortly before his 70th birthday. As the news reached us when this issue was going to press tributes will be paid to him in the next edition.

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ORGANISATIONAL NEWS

A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

AJR Members in Suburbia

Early last year one of our members published an advertisement in *AJR Information* in which he suggested that readers in Edgware, Wembley and other north-western suburbs who are interested in establishing social contacts with fellow-residents of their background should get in touch with him. The response was surprisingly wide and, since then, a number of middle-aged couples have held regular informal gatherings in their mutual homes and developed bonds of personal friendship between themselves.

To mark the first anniversary of the circle, a small birthday party was held, to which the Editor of *AJR Information* was also invited. The success of the venture shows that there is a demand for facilities of this kind, especially among people living on the outskirts of London. On the other hand, the circle can only comprise a restricted number of persons, because otherwise the personal atmosphere would be marred and also because the capacity of the private houses where the meetings take place is limited. However, it would still be possible to include some more people, and it may also be that, based on the experience gathered in the course of the year, other readers might like to consider similar arrangements. The initiator of the circle, Mr. L. Kory, 55 Mollison Way, Edgware, Middlesex (EDGWARE 6467), will be pleased to hear from any interested readers.

DESPATCH OF "AJR INFORMATION"

The AJR has acquired an addressing machine which is from now onwards being used for the despatch of *AJR Information*. This new procedure will eliminate clerical errors and omissions which sometimes occurred, when the addresses had to be written each time by the firm in charge of the despatch. Readers whose names and addresses are not correctly printed on the wrappers should write to the AJR (8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3) to have this rectified.

BRING-AND-BUY SALE

Anniversary of AJR Club

To celebrate its eleventh birthday, the AJR Club held a well-organised bring-and-buy sale on February 19. More than 200 members and friends of the Club attended, and the wide choice of articles was sold out in no time. The sale was followed by a concert, in which Mrs. Martha Freudmann (piano) and Mrs. Katinka Seiner (soprano), accompanied by Adela Kotowska, participated. The members and guests were welcomed by Mrs. M. Jacoby and Mrs. G. Schachne, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Club respectively, and the birthday greetings of the AJR were conveyed by Dr. Adelheid Levy.

OSE'S NURSES TRAINING SCHEME

In 1960 British Ose designed a scholarship scheme to improve nursing services of the Jewish communities in Morocco and Iran. Meanwhile, most of the 35 girls brought to this country have obtained their British qualifications and returned to their home countries. The scheme has now been replaced by one of training Iranian girls in their own country.

KARL JAKOB HIRSCH EXHIBITION

An exhibition of the works by the painter and author, Karl Jakob Hirsch, was held in the Berlin Academy of Arts. The opening address was delivered by Dr. H. H. Stuckenschmidt, who knew the late K. J. Hirsch from the time he had spent with him in Worpswede. Hirsch was born in Hanover, and had his first successes in Berlin. In 1933 he emigrated to the U.S.A. via Denmark and Switzerland. He returned to Germany after the war and died in Munich in 1952. A great-grandson of Samson Raphael Hirsch, he became a Christian whilst living abroad. The exhibition included portraits of well-known personalities, book illustrations (among them to some works by Buber and Rilke), stage designs, books and articles. The actress Elsa Wagner read a chapter from Hirsch's autobiographical novel, "Kaiserwetter" (1931).

AWARD TO AUSTRIAN CIVIL SERVANT

Ministerialrat a.D. Dr. Walter Hubinger was awarded the "Grosse Silberne Ehrenzeichen fuer Verdienste um die Republik Oesterreich".

Prior to his retirement in 1966, Dr. Hubinger was Principal of the International Department of the Austrian Ministry of Social Administration. Due to his thorough knowledge, his outstanding legal mind, his linguistic proficiency and, last but not least, his personal courtesy, he was particularly qualified to represent his government in international negotiations and to help in solving the sometimes difficult problems under discussion. One of the issues he had to deal with was the reinstatement of the emigrated Nazi victims within the system of the Austrian Social Insurance for employees and workers. He approached this question with an open mind, with sympathy for the sufferings of the persecutees and with the determination of achieving a just solution. It is due to him that the task, which was riddled with legalistic complications, was accomplished in the years 1954-55. The Austrian emigration or, as the Austrian Federal President called it on the occasion of his London visit, "das neunte Bundesland", is deeply indebted to him for his understanding and helpfulness.

JEWISH COMMUNAL WORKERS

International Conference in Israel

On the initiative of social, cultural and educational organisations in the U.S.A., Canada and France, and of governmental departments and public institutions in Israel, an International Conference of Community Workers will be held in Israel from August 19-23. The theme of the Conference is "The responsibility of Jewish communal services for the strengthening of Jewish identification". The introductory address will be given by Professor Ernst Simon. The agenda, *inter alia*, envisages study groups, informal exchanges between professionals specialising in certain aspects of social and cultural work and visits to institutions. Arrangements for participants to travel together at reduced fares are under consideration. Particulars may be obtained from: Miss N. Hurstbourne, Association of Jewish Social Workers, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1.

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